Numb. 13417.

The London Gazette

EXTRAORDINARY.

Published by Authority.

SUNDAY, MAY 20, 1792.

Whitehall, May 20.

THE Letters from the East Indies, of which the following are Copies and Extracts, were received Yesterday by the Deptford, one of the Company's Ships.

To the Honorable Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honorable United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

HONORABLE SIRS,

I Received Accounts a few Days after I wrote my last Letter, dated the 24th of October, that the North-East Monsoon had broke, and the Rains, which were heavier and of longer Duration this Season in the Carnatic than for many Years past, having fallen about the same Time, with little less Violence, above the Ghauts, the Transport of the various Stores, which were necessary for the Operations of the ensuing Campaign, has been attended with great Delay and many extraordinary Difficulties.

I have, however, the Satisfaction to inform you, that all those Obstacles were overcome by the Zeal and Exertion of the Officers who were employed with the different Convoys, and our Preparations are so far completed, that I have already been able to commence with Success upon the Execution of the general Plan which I had proposed for the Campaign.

I had the Honor to communicate to you in my last Letter my Intentions respecting the Fortress of Sevendroog; and having, upon a Consideration of it's numerous Garrison, and the Shelter which Bodies of Horse could receive, under it's Protection, in the rugged and woody Tract of Country with which it is encircled for several Miles, become daily more convinced that all the Means which it was in my Power to adopt, would be ineffectual to secure Supplies from the Northward to the Armies that are destined to invest the Enemy's Capital, unless that Fort could be reduced, I finally resolved some Time ago to make the Attempt.

It being necessary, in order to enable me to make my previous Arrangements, to ascertain what Part of the extensive Rock it would be most advisable to attack, I took a Position with the Army about half Way between Bangalore and Sevendroog, and sent the Chief Engineer and other skilful Officers, under the Escort of a few Battalions, to reconnoitre the Place in the most minute and deliberate Manner.

After I had received their Report, I detached Lieutenant-Colonel Stuart, on the 11th Instant, with His Majesty's 52d and 72d Regiments and Four Native Battalions, Eight Eighteen-Pounders, Four Twelve-Pounders, and Two small Mortars, with Directions to attack the Place on the North-East Side, the Appearance of which, from the Plans and Sketches that had been laid before me, seemed to me to be the least discouraging; and I subsequently added the Flank Companies

[Price Eight-pence.]

Companies of the 71ſt and 76th Regiments to Lieutenant-Colonel Stuart's Corps.

I then eſtabliſhed Poſts, compoſed of Detachments of our own Infantry and the Horſe of our Allies, at a conſiderable Diſtance on our Right and Left, for the Purpoſe of preventing the Enemy's Parties from going round to diſturb the Communications behind us during the Siege; and I afterwards moved on, with the main Body of the Army, to the neareſt Ground to the Northward of the Fort on which it was poſſible to encamp, and which was not leſs than Eight Miles diſtant from it, in order to be ready to act according to Circumſtances, either in Support of the attacking Corps, or of any of the other Detachments, in caſe the Enemy ſhould venture to form a Deſign againſt them.

I ſhall neither trouble you with a Deſcription of this formidable Fortreſs, the lower Wall of which embraces, at a conſiderable Height on the Aſcent, an immenſe Mountain, or rather Rock, but which actually conſiſts of Two diſtant Forts, ſeparated from each other by a deep Chaſm acroſs the Top of the Mountain, and to the Weſtern Fort there is no Acceſs, except by one narrow Path, that leads to it from the Northern Side; nor ſhall I enter into a Detail of the Particulars of the Siege, which, though attended with almoſt incredible Labour, in cutting Roads and Communications, and in dragging the Guns up the Precipices, on which it was neceſſary to conſtruct the Batteries, was puſhed on with the utmoſt Vigour and Expedition; but ſhall content myſelf with mentioning, that having had Reaſon, on the 20th Inſtant, to expect, from the ſhattered Appearance of the Two Walls of the Eaſtern Fort, that the Breaches in them would ſoon be practicable, and it being utterly impoſſible that Troops could find their Way amongſt the Rocks and Precipices to aſcend the Face of the Hill in the Night, I directed that all the Batteries ſhould continue to fire inceſſantly during the Remainder of that Day, and from Day-break the following Morning, and that Lieutenant-Colonel Stuart ſhould immediately make a Diſpoſition for aſſaulting the Place in the Forenoon.

The Fire of the Artillery had every Effect that I could have wiſhed; and Lieutenant-Colonel Stuart having made a moſt judicious Diſpoſition for the Aſſault, the Troops mounted the Breach of the lower Wall, from Lodgements that had been made near to it, upon a Signal which was given, at Ten o'Clock; and the good Order and determined Countenance of the European Grenadiers and Light Infantry, who led the Aſſault, ſtruck the Enemy with ſuch Aſtoniſhment, and ſo thoroughly ſtupified them with Terror, that although they were poſted in great Numbers in Situations, from which they might have done much Execution before they could have been diſlodged, it ſoon appeared that they were totally incapable of making the leaſt Reſiſtance, and by that Means the Troops, without encountering any other Difficulty but that of the Ruggedneſs of the Paths and the exceſſive Steepneſs of the Aſcent, not only gained the Summit of the Eaſtern Hill, but thoſe of the Right Diviſion alſo purſued the Fugitives to the Gates of the Weſtern Hill, to which the Fire of our Artillery had not been directed, and there mixed and entered with them. The Pettah, and a Chain of ſmall detached Forts, at a ſhort Diſtance from the Southern Side of the Hill, being commanded by the upper Works, were immediately abandoned upon the Appearance of our Troops on the Summit of the Mountain.

The Garriſon, at the Beginning of the Siege, conſiſted of about 2,000 Men, from which there had been conſiderable Deſertions before the Day of the Aſſault.

On that Occaſion, although I had ſent Two Battalions early in the Morning from the Camp of the main Army to endeavour to intercept the Runaways on the oppoſite Side of the Mountain, by far the greateſt Number eſcaped over different Parts of the extenſive Circuit of the Walls, leaving only between Two and Three Hundred killed and wounded, amongſt the former of which was the Second Killedar, and the Firſt Killedar and a few of the principal Officers Priſoners.

On our Side we were fortunate to a Degree, which, perhaps, can hardly be paralleled in Hiſtory; only Seventeen Men, Officers included, were killed or wounded in carrying on the Approaches and in the Conſtruction of our Batteries, one of which was within 250 Yards of the Wall; and I had the ſingular Gratification to acquire a Fortreſs of ineſtimable Value to the Public Intereſts, and which has hitherto been conſidered over all India as impregnable, without having to regret the Loſs of a ſingle Soldier in the Aſſault.

Being perſuaded that the Garriſons of the neighbouring Forts would be impreſſed with great Terror by the Fall of Sevendroog, I loſt no Time to avail myſelf of their Conſternation. Captain Welſh, of the Bengal Infantry, who was poſted with Three Native Battalions and a large Body of the Nizam's Horſe, at a conſiderable Diſtance on the Left of the Poſition of the Army, was accordingly ordered to march with Two Battalions, before Day-light, on the Morning of the 22d, to the Fort of Ramghire, ſituated about Thirty Miles from Bangalore, on the great Road leading from that Place, by Anapatam, to Seringapatam; and Lieutenant-Colonel Stuart was directed, after leaving One Native Battalion in Sevendroog, to march, with the Remainder of the Corps under his Command, on the Morning of the 23d, to inveſt the ſtrong Hill Fort of Outradroog, which lays about Twelve Miles to the North-Weſt of Sevendroog.

Although Captain Welſh was furniſhed with no Means whatever to reduce the Fort of Ramghire by Force, he, by his Addreſs and judicious Management, not only ſucceeded in alarming the Killedar of that Place and his Garriſon, and inducing them to capitulate on the Forenoon of the 23d, but alſo obtained, in like Manner, Poſſeſſion of the adjoining Fort of Sevenghire, on the Morning of the 24th.

At Outradroog we were equally ſucceſsful, and with Circumſtances much more brilliant.

The Afternoon of the 23d was employed by Lieutenant-Colonel Stuart, and by the Engineers who had accompanied his Detachment, in reconnoitring the Place; and he reſolved to attack the Pettah on the following Morning.

A Detachment

A Detachment was accordingly formed for that Purpoſe, under the Command of Captain Scott, of the Bengal Infantry, and on its March towards the Fort, about Nine o'Clock in the Forenoon, it was met by a Bramin, who ſaid that he came out, with Aſſurances from the Garriſon, that, notwithſtanding the Reſolution of the Killedar to the contrary, they were determined to ſurrender.

The great Strength of the Place rendered the Overture highly acceptable; and Lieutenant-Colonel Stuart immediately ſent back the Bramin with Offers of advantageous Terms, both to the Garriſon and the Inhabitants, provided they would admit the Troops without Reſiſtance, and he gave them Two Hours, from Ten o'Clock, to conſider and to come to their final Deciſion.

The Guns of the Fort having, however, continued to fire frequently during that Interval, and Lieutenant-Colonel Stuart having likewiſe ſeen other Reaſons to induce him to believe that the Offer of Surrender had been only a Feint, in order to gain Time on the Part of the Garriſon, the aſſaulting Party was held in Readineſs; and no Perſon having come out of the Fort at the Expiration of the Two Hours, Captain Scott was ordered to advance, under Cover of the Fire of ſome Six-Pounders, to eſcalade the Pettah, with an additional Inſtruction to make an Attempt upon the Fort, in caſe evident Marks of Confuſion or Irreſolution ſhould appear amongſt the Enemy.

The Troops, upon aſcending the Ladders, found that the Pettah had been abandoned; but, having diſcovered clear Signs of Conſternation amongſt the Enemy upon the Walls of the Fort, they proceeded with their Ladders to aſſault them with an Ardour and Confidence that the recent Succeſs at Sevendroog could alone have inſpired, and met with a Feebleneſs of Reſiſtance which could only be accounted for by the ſtrong Impreſſion of Terror which the Fall of that Place had made upon the Minds of their Adverſaries. Six different high Walls of Maſonry, upon the Aſcent of an Hill of an uncommon Steepneſs, were ſucceſſively and rapidly carried; and nothing could have more ſtrongly marked the Panic of the Enemy and our aſtoniſhing good Fortune, than that, although their Fire during the Aſſault was conſiderable, Two Soldiers only belonging to the 72d Regiment were ſlightly wounded by it. The Garriſon conſiſted of about Six Hundred Men, near an Hundred of whom were killed or wounded in the Heat of the Aſſault; a Number of the Remainder periſhed in attempting to eſcape over the Precipices on the oppoſite Side of the Fort, and the 1ſt and 2d Killedars, with a few of the other principal Men, fell into our Hands unhurt.

At the Time that I came to the Reſolution to attack Sevendroog and the other Forts on the Roads to Seringapatam, I communicated my Intention to the Nizam's Son and Miniſter, and to Purſeram Bhow, recommending to the former to advance but ſlowly with his Highneſs's Troops under their Command, both for the Convenience of Subſiſtance, and on Account of the Impoſſibility of their approaching near to this Army in the woody Country in which I was obliged to encamp; but requeſting that Purſeram Bhow would loſe no Time in moving to the Situation that I had formerly pointed out to him as neceſſary for the Purpoſe of co-operating uſefully with us, and particularly, at that Period, for preventing the Communications on the Rear of our Right Flank from being diſturbed by the Enemy's Horſe.

Purſeram Bhow has been lately much indiſpoſed, which has, to our great Inconvenience, retarded the Execution of the Movement which I preſſed him to make, but he is now a little recovered; and though I have not heard from him lately, I have Reaſon to hope that he is at preſent advancing to take a Poſition between Sera and Shevagunga, according to my Requeſt.

General Abercromby has, in Compliance with the Inſtructions that I tranſmitted to him ſome Time ago, aſcended the Pondicherrum Ghaut with the Troops under his Command; and as I ſhall be able, in Two or Three Days, to ſend to Bangalore for the Remainder of the heavy Artillery and Stores that will be wanted for the Siege, every Thing will be prepared, as far as depends upon me, to enable the whole Confederate Force to advance towards Seringapatam early in the next Month.

My Apprehenſions for the Safety of Coimbatore proved, unluckily by the Event, to have been too well founded; for Major Cuppage, having failed in an Attempt to raiſe the Siege, Lieutenant Chalmers was obliged to ſurrender the Place, by Capitulation, to Kummer ul Dien Khan, after a gallant Defence of Twenty-eight Days.

I have not yet ſeen a Copy of the Capitulation, which, I conclude, Lieutenant Chalmers has been prevented from ſending to me; but I have underſtood, from a ſhort Letter that he contrived to convey to Major Cuppage, that the Terms were, that the Garriſon ſhould retain their Baggage and private Property, and be allowed to proceed to Madras, on Condition of their engaging not to ſerve againſt Tippoo during the War.

It appears, however, that not even the preſent unfavourable Aſpect of his Affairs is ſufficient to induce Tippoo to put a Reſtraint upon the natural Perfidy of his Diſpoſition; for he has violated the Capitulation, and has brought up Lieutenant Chalmers and all the Garriſon to Seringapatam, where they are now in Confinement.

I have been informed that Kummer ul Dien deſtroyed the wretched Works of Coimbatore, and, according to my Expectations, immediately reaſcended the Ghauts with his whole Detachment, by which Means our Troops to the Southward will find no Difficulty in regaining Poſſeſſion of that Country.

Tippoo has lately made another fruitleſs Attempt to open a ſeparate Negotiation with the Nizam, but he has made no Overture, ſince the Date of my laſt Letter, to treat for a general Peace.

You will be informed, by this Opportunity, of the Diſtreſſes which the Inhabitants of the Northern Circars are likely to ſuffer from an uncommon Drought in that Quarter; and you will have heard, by the firſt Ship of the Seaſon, of the ſerious Apprehenſions that were for ſome Time entertained of a great Scarcity in Bengal.

Every

Every Exertion will be made, by the Governments of Bengal and Fort St. George, to afford Aſſiſtance to the Circars; and my Mind has been relieved from much Anxiety by my late Advices from Bengal, which ſay, that although the Price of Grain will be high in that Country, there is now no Danger of Loſs of Inhabitants, or of conſiderable Failure of Revenue.

I think it proper to acquaint you, that I have granted Leave to Major-General Muſgrave, upon his Solicitation, on Account of his private Affairs, to return to Europe by one of the Ships of this Seaſon.

I have the Honor to be,
with great Reſpect,
Honorable Sirs,
Your moſt obedient, and
moſt humble Servant,
(Signed) CORNWALLIS.

Camp near Sevendroog,
December 26, 1791.

Extract of a Letter from the Governor and Council at Madras, in their Political Department, to the Court of Directors, dated January 16, 1792.

BY our laſt Addreſs, viâ Bengal, your Honorable Court were informed of the Capture of Nundy Durgum by the Army under Lord Cornwallis, and of the Deſcent of a Party of the Enemy into the Coimbatour Diſtrict, under the Command of Cummur ud Dien Cawn.

The Party, conſiſting of Eight Roſſallahs and Seven Hundred Horſe, with Eight Guns and Two Mortars, encamped before Coimbatour the 6th of October. In the Garriſon were the 2d Travancore Battalion, the Topaſs Corps, and a Company of the 16th Battalion under Lieutenant Naſh, and the Whole commanded by Lieutenant Chalmers. On the 13th the Enemy opened from a Battery of Two Guns on the Bank of a Tank, to the Southward of the Fort; but for ſeveral Days after ſcarce made any Impreſſion on the Works. Notwithſtanding the Slowneſs of their Motions, it was apprehended that the Garriſon, from the defenceleſs Situation of the Place, and the Want of Ammunition, would, without ſome effectual Aſſiſtance from Paligautcherry, be ſhortly overpowered.

Lord Cornwallis, upon receiving Information from us of the Attack of Coimbatour, wrote to Major Cuppage, the Officer commanding at Paligautcherry, recommending, that in caſe he (the Major) could not aſſemble a Force ſufficient to cope with the Enemy in open Day-light, he ſhould, by all Means, attack the Enemy's Camp at Night, with whatever Force he could collect, even if it ſhould not much exceed Two Battalions of diſciplined Troops. That if this Attempt, his Lordſhip ſaid, could be executed by Surprize, the Succeſs might be more certain and complete; but that even if the Enemy's Commander were aware of the Intention, his Lordſhip had ſo little Opinion either of the Diſcipline or Reſolution of Tippoo's Troops, particularly in Night Attacks, that he could hardly doubt of Major Cuppage's being able to cauſe a Diverſion in Favor of Coimbatour.

But before Major Cuppage could receive this Letter he had determined to move towards the Enemy. The 12th Bombay Battalion had opportunely arrived at Paligautcherry, to eſcort the Carnatic Bullocks intended for General Abercrombie's Army; it's Services, in Conjunction with the 5th and 16th Coaſt Battalions, and Two of Travancore, with Three Brigades of Six Pounders, were employed on this Occaſion; and the Major left Paligautcherry, on the 22d of October, in the Hope of raiſing the Siege of Coimbatour.

The Detachment reached Madagerry, a Village about Twelve Miles from Coimbatour, on the 23d, and ſoon after the Enemy appeared in conſiderable Force, and on the Left of his Encampment. Major Cuppage deeming it imprudent, under theſe Circumſtances, to proceed, and apprehending ſome Attempt on the Part of the Enemy to cut off his Communication with Paligautcherry, threw the Baggage into a Choultry, and ordered the Line to retreat. After vigorous and repeated Aſſaults of the Enemy upon our Picket Guard and the Line, they were finally repulſed, with great Steadineſs and Gallantry, by the Detachment; and Major Cuppage continued his Retreat, without further Moleſtation, to Paligautcherry, where he arrived on the 25th, having ſuffered no other Loſs than Four Sepoys killed and Sixty wounded.

Lieutenant Chalmers made every Effort to ſave the Place; but his Ammunition being expended, and the Walls breached in ſeveral Places, and the Enemy prepared for a general Aſſault, he ſent out a Flag of Truce, with an Offer to ſurrender Coimbatoor upon the following Conditions: "That the Garriſon be "permitted to march out, with their private Pro- "perty, unmoleſted, and eſcorted to Paligautcherry, "from whence they were to proceed to the Coaſt, "under an Engagement not to ſerve againſt Tippoo, "or his Allies, during the preſent War; and that "all Public Property be delivered up to the Enemy." Cummer ud Dien Cawn acquieſced at once in the Terms. The Articles were drawn out and ſigned by him, and he took Poſſeſſion of the Fort on the 3d of November; but, inſtead of ſending an Eſcort with the Garriſon to Paligautcherry, as expreſsly ſtipulated, they were conducted Priſoners to the Pettah. Lieutenant Chalmers remonſtrated, but in vain.—Commer ud Dien ſent him Word, that, until he had Orders from the Sultaun, he could not releaſe a ſingle Man.—By recent Intelligence from that Quarter, we learn the Enemy, having deſtroyed Coimbatoor, conducted Lieutenant Chalmers and his Party to Seringapatam, leaving a ſmall Force in the Diſtrict to collect the Revenues.

At the Recommendation of Lord Cornwallis, we have directed Major Cuppage to draw a Reinforcement from the Garriſons of Dindigul and Caroor, for the Purpoſe of expelling the Enemy remaining in the Diſtrict, and of diſlodging them from Enode, Settimungalum, and Damiacotah, without, however, fixing Poſts at any of thoſe Places until the Grand Army were further advanced towards the Enemy's Capital.

Having thus detailed to your Honourable Court the Tranſactions to the Southward to the lateſt Priod, we ſhall proceed to relate the Operations of the Grand Army ſince the Capture of Nundydurgum.

Reports

Reports of a Force in the Baramhaul having reached Lord Cornwallis, during the Siege of Nundydurgum, his Lordſhip had no ſooner poſſeſſed himſelf of that important Fortreſs, than he moved with Celerity to the Eaſtward, detaching Lieutenant-Colonel Maxwell, with Three Battalions, to be joined by a Fourth at Ryocotah, into the Baramhaul, with Orders to attack any Force of the Enemy that he might find in that Quarter. The Colonel, by quick Marches, reached Darampoury, on the 29th of October, which inſtantly ſurrendered; the principal People, and moſt of the Garriſon, fled upon the Approach of our Troops, leaving behind them great Numbers of Cattle, and joined a Body of Cavalry which had been for ſome Time in that Country committing Devaſtations. The Detachment purſued them down the Valley, and reached Penagra, a ſtrong Fort at the Foot of the Hills, commanding the Alembaddy Paſs; here, it ſeems, the Enemy being hard preſſed, turned to the Left, and advanced to the Changama Paſs, through which they entered the Carnatic, and moved towards Arnee. Part of our Cavalry, under Colonel Floyd, was then at Arcot, and the Enemy, probably on hearing this Circumſtance, moved towards Tiagur, and, after remaining in that Neighbourhood for a few Days, re-entered the Barramhaul by the Paſs of Attoor.

Our Flags of Truce having been fixed upon by the Garriſon of Pinagra, it was determined to force the South Gate; Guns were brought up to the Edge of the Ditch, under the Fire of a covering Party, and Three Rounds were fired at the Gate, but without Effect; Ladders were therefore applied, and the Firſt and Second Walls eſcaladed. Signals were then thrown out by the Garriſon for Cowle, but the Moment had elapſed in which Protection could have been given. The Aſſailants drove the Enemy, about Three Hundred, from the Works, and before the Firing ceaſed, 150 of them were either killed or wounded. The Place was full of Inhabitants, and of the Families of the neighbouring Diſtricts, ſome of them apparently of Rank. Such of them as held official Situations, or from former Employments were judged to be of Conſequence, were detained as Priſoners. Some fell in the Aſſault, but all the Inhabitants were permitted to depart.

Some Grain, and a conſiderable Quantity of Powder, were found in the Magazines, the latter was employed in the Deſtruction of the Works. The Gates were burnt, and the Walls breached ſo as to render the Fort perfectly untenable. We have the Pleaſure to add, that the Caſualties of the Detachment amounted only to Three Europeans and Three Sepoys wounded, and all of thoſe were expected to recover.

The Detachment, having nothing further in View to the Southward, moved in an oppoſite Direction, and on the 7th of November arrived within Four Miles of Kiſtnagerry. On the advanced Guard coming to the Ground, a Body of Troops, between Five and Six Hundred, with Standards, were obſerved, drawn up in good Order between the Fort and the Detachment, but withdrew on the Approach of our Line. This Circumſtance gave Colonel Maxwell Reaſon to ſuppoſe that the Pettah had not been deſerted, and determined him to attack it during the Night.

The Situation having been reconnoitred in the Afternoon, and the Diſpoſition for the Attack made, Two Parties moved, in different Directions, at Midnight. The Walls were eſcaladed to the Right and to the Left at the ſame Inſtant of Time; and in Fifteen Minutes the Pettah and lower Fort, which had been defended by Two Hundred Regular Troops and a large Body of Peons, were completely in our Poſſeſſion.

Such of the Fugitives as eſcaped attempted to gain the Rock. They were cloſely purſued by our Troops, and for ſome Time there was great Reaſon to hope they would enter the upper Fort together; but the Difficulty and Length of the Aſcent, added to the Neceſſity of purſuing with Regularity, prevented it. The Gate was ſhut juſt as the leading Files of the Flank Companies reached it. The Probability, however, of Succeſs was ſtill ſo great, that it was determined to apply the Scaling Ladders, which, unfortunately, during the Purſuit, had fallen much in the Rear, and before they could be brought up the Enemy had recovered from their Confuſion, and hurled, without Intermiſſion, from the Rock above, Showers of immenſe Stones, which nothing could reſiſt. The Ladders and thoſe who carried them were inſtantly ſwept away, and a Retreat became inevitable. The Troops, in deſcending from this perilous Situation, preſerved the greateſt Regularity. A Gun, which had been placed on the Road, was ſpiked, and the lower Fort and Pettah ſet on Fire before Day-light by our Troops.

The Caſualties of the Detachment were unavoidably numerous; Lieutenant Forbes, of the 74th Regiment, died of his Wounds; Lieutenant Lamout, of the ſame Corps, in conſequence of a Wound, fell over the Precipice, and was killed; and Five other Officers were wounded. Three Europeans and One Native were killed, Forty-ſeven Europeans and Seventeen Natives wounded, and Three Europeans were miſſing.

The Detachment continued for ſome Days longer in the Baramhaul, after which it re-aſcended the Ghauts, and joined the Army on the 21ſt of November, having reduced ſeveral ſmall Forts in it's Way. Lord Cornwallis, upon it's Arrival, expreſſed his Thanks, in General Orders, for the Services it had performed, and declared, that "He conſidered "the ſpirited and judicious Attempt, which, after "ſurpriſing and carrying the Pettah and lower "Fort, was made upon the upper Fort of Kiſt-"nagherry, as highly honorable to all the Officers "and Soldiers who were employed on that Occa-"ſion, and juſtly deſerving his warmeſt Applauſe."

In Conſequence of the Irruption of the Enemy's Horſe into the Carnatic, Colonel Floyd, with the Force under his Command, was employed ſome Time in protecting the Convoys moving from the Preſidency to the Weſtward; he was ſoon after joined by the Detachment of Royal Artillery, and proceeded to Amboor, where, having taken under his Charge a very valuable Convoy, he marched on the 22d of December towards Bangalore.

Lord

Lord Cornwallis, after detaching Lieutenant-Colonel Maxwell, as before ſtated, continued his March to Bangalore, which he reached on the 7th of November, and encamped in ſuch a Poſition as to prevent any Parties of the Enemy from paſſing to the Southward of that Place, and to ſecure our Convoys from being diſturbed in their March from Vencatgherry.

About this Time we received the agreeable Intelligence, that the lower Fort of Gurrumcondah had been taken by Aſſault, by the Detachment of the Company's Troops under Captain Read, ſerving with the Nizam's Army, and that the Loſs on our Part wus inconſiderable. Captain Read's Account of the Capture is entered upon our Minutes of the 22d of November.

We omitted to mention, in the ſhort Letter which we had the Honour to write to you by Mr. Crawford, on the 5th inſt. that Tippoo's Son, with a Body of Horſe under his Command, had, a few Days after our Detachment under Captain Andrew Read left the Place, ſuddenly appeared before Gurrumcondah, and made the Nizam's Troops, occupying the lower Fort, Priſoners.

Sir John Kennaway, who was proceeding, in Company with the Nizam's Army and Captain Read's Detachment, to join Lord Cornwallis, upon hearing of the Enemy's Attack on Gurrumcondah, returned to that Place, and took Poſſeſſion of the lower Fort without Oppoſition.

P. S. Since cloſing this Addreſs, our Acting Preſident has received a Letter from Lord Cornwallis, (Extract of which we have the Honour to encloſe) adviſing that a conſiderable Corps of the Enemy had been defeated by Purſeram Bhow, near Simogu, and that Eight Pieces of Cannon had been taken. This fortunate Event, his Lordſhip adds, may render it more practicable for the Bhow to co-operate with the Grand Army by the Route he had taken, than it would have otherwiſe been.

Cha. Oakeley.
Wm. Petrie.
J. Hudleſton.

Jauuary 19, 1792.

Extract of a Letter from the Governor and Council at Madras, in their Political Department, to the Court of Directors, dated January 26, 1792.

OUR laſt Addreſs was dated the 16th Inſtant, and tranſmitted by your Ship the Phœnix, which left theſe Roads the 19th.

On the 19th, at Night, we received an Account from Captain Flint, commanding at Tiagar, that a Party of about Four Hundred Horſe had paſſed on the 16th, Eight Miles to the Southward of that Place, and that their Courſe ſeemed to be Eaſtward. About Seven o'Clock the next Morning the Alarm Guns were fired at the Mount, and Notice ſent by Major Tutt, who commanded there, that ſome Irregular Horſe were in Sight. Our Acting Preſident immediately gave Orders that a Detachment of Two Companies of Sepoys, with Two Field Pieces, and the Cavalry of the Governor's Body Guard, conſiſting of Twenty-five, ſhould move out under Major Wynch for the Protection of the Environs. Having collected alſo about Forty Horſes from the Gentlemen of the Settlement, theſe were mounted with Troopers, and ſent out on this Occaſion under Captain Keith Macaliſter.

Major Pater was ordered at the ſame Time, with Two Companies of Sepoys, to reinforce the Guard proceeding with the laſt Diſpatch of Money to Camp, which, by the lateſt Account, had arrived at Streepermadore, where the Guard had taken Poſt. Major Pater joined it early in the Morning of the 21ſt, and proceeded with the Treaſure to Vellore.

In the Evening of the 20th, Intelligence was received from the Officer commanding at Chingleput, diſpatched at Ten o'Clock the preceding Night, adviſing, that a Party, ſuppoſed to be 500 Horſe, croſſed the Palan that Day near Severam Hills, and in the Direction of North-North-Eaſt. Hence it is evident, their March muſt have been forced, and very rapid, as they arrived at the Mount ſeveral Hours before the Receipt of the Expreſs from Chingleput.

On the Movement of our Troops from the Fort, the Enemy retreated with great Expedition to the Southward. The Village of Sidapit, and one or more Houſes in the Neighbourhood of the Mount, were plundered, and a few of the Inhabitants ſeverely wounded. We have thought it neceſſary to call upon Major Tutt, on this Occaſion, to explain what Steps he took, in conſequence of the Alarm, to protect the Perſons and Property of the Inhabitants near the Cantonment.

In order to ſecure the Environs from future Inſult, we reſolved, though our Force is very ſlender, to form a Detachment, conſiſting of the Cavalry under Major Young, the recovered Horſes of the 19th Dragoons left at Pondamallee, the Governor's Body Guard, with as many Sepoys as could be ſpared from the Duties of the Garriſon, and Two Field Pieces. We have alſo agreed to add Twenty-five Men to each Company of the Two Native Battalions doing Duty here, during the War; and we have taken ſuch other Precautions as will, we truſt, effectually ſecure us from further Moleſtation.

We have the Honor to tranſmit, as a Number in the Packet, Copy of a Letter from Lord Cornwallis, with Copies of a Letter to him from Tippoo Sultan, and of his Lordſhip's Reply.

We are informed, by private Advices, that Purſeram Bhow has captured the Fort of Simogu, and other Places of Strength in that Neighbourhood, which will enable him more effectually to cut off the Enemy's Communication with Bednore.

We have the Honor to be,
with the greateſt Reſpect,
Honorable Sirs,
Your faithful humble Servants,

(Signed) *Cha. Oakeley.*
Wm. Petrie.
J. Hudleſton.

Fort St. George,
January 26, 1792.

Sir CHARLES OAKELEY, *Bart. &c. &c. &c.*

SIR,

I Encloſe Copies of the Letter that I received from Tippoo Sultan, and of my Anſwer, which latter was given in Concert with Hurry Punt and Meer Allum.

I have to requeſt, that you will direct Copies to be tranſmitted to Bengal, and, by the firſt Opportunity, to the Court of Directors.

Sir John Kennaway informed me, in a Letter, dated the 12th Inſtant, that the Prince and Miniſter would Yeſterday reach the Neighbourhood of Oaſcottah.

I am, with much Eſteem,
SIR,
Your moſt obedient
humble Servant,
(Signed) CORNWALLIS.

Camp, near Outradroog,
January 16, 1792.

A true Copy.
(Signed) *George Parry*,
Act. Dep. Secretary.

FROM TIPPOO SULTAN.

Received January 13, 1792.

AT this Time, with a View to ſtrengthen the Friendſhip, and remove the Diſagreements, between the Ahmeedy Sirkar, the Company, his Highneſs the Nawaub Aſoph Jah, and the Peſhwa, and to cultivate the Ties of Intimacy between theſe Four Sirkars, a confidential and experienced Man belonging to this Sirkar will be deputed to your Lordſhip, in order that, by Negotiation perſonally with every one, the Diſpleaſure of the Mind may be done away, and a Reconciliation with each other (which is for the Good and Quiet of Mankind) may take Place. If this meets with your Lordſhip's Approbation, be pleaſed to notify it, that the abovementioned Perſon may be ſent to a Place appointed, and the ancient Friendſhip may be renewed.

Dated 12 Jemmadie ul Owal 1206 Heree, or 7th of January, 1792.

A true Tranſlation, (Signed) *G. F. Cherry.*

TO TIPPOO SULTAN.

Written the 16th of January, 1792, after recapitulating the Letter received the 13th of January.

IT is well known, that, after having made every conciliatory Propoſition in my Power to prevent this War, I was forced, by the Dictates of Honor and good Faith, to have Recourſe to Arms, to ſave One of the Company's Allies from Deſtruction; and I have ever been deſirous to make Peace as ſoon as proper Compenſations can be received for the Injuries and Loſſes that have been ſuſtained by the Company, and by thoſe Allies with whom it is connected in the ſtricteſt Bonds of Confederacy.

But with what Confidence can a Negotiation be carried on with a Man, who not only violates Treaties of Peace, but alſo diſregards the Faith of Capitulations during War.

The Garriſon of Coimbatore ought, by the Capitulation, to have been ſet at Liberty, upon certain Conditions, immediately after it's Surrender; and I have a juſt Right to demand, that the Agreement ſhould ſtill be executed on the Spot where it was made; but being unwilling, at this critical Time, to occaſion any Delay that can be avoided in opening a Negotiation, I ſhall not inſiſt on a literal Performance of the original Stipulations, on Account of the Length of Time that the Execution would require.

Let, therefore, the Garriſon of Coimbatore be ſent to this Army, to be ſet at Liberty, according to the Conditions of the Capitulation that were ſettled between Lieutenant Chalmers and Cummer ud Deen Khan, and I ſhall then be ready, in Concert with the Allies, to fix upon a Place where Vackeels from you may conveniently meet proper Perſons that will be deputed, on the Part of the Three Confederate Powers, for the Purpoſe of endeavouring to arrange the Terms on which a General Peace can be re-eſtabliſhed.

A true Copy.
(Signed) *G. F. Cherry*, Perſian Interpreter.

True Copies.
(Signed) *George Parry*, Act. Dep. Sec.

Printed by EDWARD JOHNSTON, in Warwick-Lane.